

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS**

**Claim 1 (withdrawn):** A method of assessing the expression of mRNA for T cell receptor variable subunit  $\alpha$ , comprising the steps of:

extracting mRNA from T cells;

performing a polymerase chain reaction using a reaction mixture that includes a

nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs: 1 through 32 and said mRNA; and

measuring the product of said polymerase chain reaction.

**Claim 2 (withdrawn):** The method of Claim 1, wherein said measuring occurs by gel electrophoresis or fluorescent detection.

**Claim 3 (withdrawn):** The method of Claim 1, wherein said polymerase chain reaction is a reverse transcription polymerase chain reaction.

**Claim 4 (withdrawn):** The method of Claim 3, wherein a progress of said reverse transcription polymerase chain reaction is assessed in real time.

**Claim 5 (withdrawn):** The method of Claim 1, wherein said reaction mixture further includes deoxynucleotide triphosphates.

**Claim 6 (withdrawn):** The method of Claim 6, wherein said reaction mixture further includes SEQ ID No. 56.

**Claim 7 (withdrawn):** A method of assessing the expression of mRNA for T cell receptor variable subunit  $\beta$ , comprising the steps of:

extracting mRNA from T cells;  
performing a polymerase chain reaction using a reaction mixture that includes a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs: 33 through 55 and said mRNA; and  
measuring the product of said polymerase chain reaction.

**Claim 8 (withdrawn):** The method of Claim 7, wherein said measuring occurs by gel electrophoresis or fluorescent detection.

**Claim 9 (withdrawn):** The method of Claim 7, wherein said polymerase chain reaction is a reverse transcription polymerase chain reaction.

**Claim 10 (withdrawn):** The method of Claim 9, wherein the progress of said reverse transcription polymerase chain reaction is assessed in real time.

**Claim 11 (withdrawn):** The method of Claim 7, wherein said reaction mixture further includes deoxynucleotide triphosphates.

**Claim 12 (withdrawn):** The method of Claim 11, wherein said reaction mixture further includes SEQ ID No. 57.

**Claim 13 (withdrawn):** A kit for assessing the expression of T cell receptor variable subunit  $\alpha$  in a patient, said kit comprising SEQ ID Nos: 1-32, an enzyme capable of performing a polymerase chain reaction, and buffer solutions capable of supporting said polymerase chain reaction.

**Claim 14 (withdrawn):** The kit of Claim 13, wherein said kit further comprises deoxynucleotide triphosphates.

**Claim 15 (currently amended):** A kit for assessing the expression of T cell receptor variable subunit  $\beta$  in a patient, said kit comprising:

SEQ ID Nos: 33-55;

an enzyme capable of performing a polymerase chain reaction; and

buffer solutions capable of supporting said polymerase chain reaction;

wherein each of SEQ ID Nos: 33-55 consists ~~essentially~~ of the respective specific

sequences set forth in Table 2 of the Specification and variations thereof that differ by no more than eight nucleotides.

**Claim 16 (original):** The kit of Claim 15, wherein said kit further comprises deoxynucleotide triphosphates.

**Claim 17 (withdrawn):** A gene chip for the measurement of the expression of T cell receptor variable subunit  $\alpha$  genes, said gene chip comprising, SEQ ID Nos: 1 through 32.

**Claim 18 (withdrawn):** A gene chip for the measurement of the expression of T cell receptor variable subunit  $\beta$  genes, said gene chip comprising, SEQ ID Nos: 33 through 55.

**Claim 19 (currently amended):** The kit of Claim 15;  
wherein each of SEQ ID Nos: 33-55 ~~consist essentially~~ consists of the respective specific sequences set forth in Table 2 of the Specification and variations thereof that differ by no more than two nucleotides.